

MOYNIHAN  
BY TIM GOLDEN

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- SEN. DANIEL MOYNIHAN, D-N.Y., MONDAY CRITICIZED PRESIDENT REAGAN'S DECISION TO REPRIMAND ONLY LOW-LEVEL CIA OFFICIALS FOR A NICARAGUAN REBEL MANUAL, SAYING ITS PRODUCTION REPRESENTED "A FAILURE OF COMMAND."

"IF ANYBODY'S TO BE REPRIMANDED, IT SHOULD NOT BE IN THE FIELD," MOYNIHAN, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, SAID IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW FROM JERUSALEM.

"THERE'S A FAILURE OF COMMAND HERE," MOYNIHAN SAID.

REAGAN APPROVED TWO INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE MANUAL SATURDAY, CONCLUDING THAT THE AGENCY'S PREPARATION OF THE MANUAL DID NOT VIOLATE U.S. LAW OR A BAN ON CIA INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS.

A CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT "IDENTIFIED INSTANCES OF POOR JUDGMENT AND LAPSES IN OVERSIGHT AT LOWER LEVELS WITHIN THE AGENCY" THAT LED TO THE MANUAL'S DISTRIBUTION BEFORE OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL CONCERNING THE USE OF VIOLENCE COULD BE EXCISED.

THE 90-PAGE MANUAL RECOMMENDS THE "SELECTIVE USE OF VIOLENCE" TO "NEUTRALIZE" OFFICIALS OF NICARAGUA'S LEFTIST GOVERNMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE SAID DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF CIA EMPLOYEES COULD INCLUDE LETTERS OF REPRIMAND AND SUSPENSION OF PAY, BUT DID NOT SAY WHETHER ANY WOULD BE FIRED. IN HIS OCT. 21 TELEVISED DEBATE WITH DEMOCRAT WALTER MONDALE, REAGAN SAID HE WOULD DISMISS ANY CIA EMPLOYEE FOUND RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANUAL.

MOYNIHAN, WHO WAS IN JERUSALEM TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE BUT HAD READ THE CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE MANUAL, SAID HE DID NOT THINK THE REPORT PRESENTED ALL THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT THE MANUAL.

"IT'S NOT THE STORY I WOULD TELL," HE SAID, NOTING THE REPORT DID NOT POINT OUT THE MANUAL WAS DRAWN FROM A COURSE ON COMMUNIST GUERRILLA TACTICS USED IN 1968 AT THE U.S. ARMY SPECIAL WARFARE SCHOOL AT FORT BRAGG.

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"WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH OUR AGENCY THAT THEY CANNOT RECOGNIZE A COMMUNIST TEXT?" MOYNIHAN ASKED, ADDING, "THIS IS NOT SOMETHING AMERICANS SHOULD EVER RECOMMEND TO ANYBODY OR PRESCRIBE FOR THEMSELVES."

MOYNIHAN SAID "YOU HAVE TO ASSUME" THE INTENTION OF U.S.-BACKED REBEL FORCE WAS TO OVERTHROW NICARAGUA'S SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT, RATHER THAN TO INTERDICT ARMS SHIPMENTS FROM NICARAGUA TO EL SALVADOR AS REAGAN HAS MAINTAINED.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED, "THEY COULD HAVE HAD A NUMBER OF PURPOSES."

MOYNIHAN ALSO DENIED THE ASSERTION OF ONE OF HIS AIDES THAT HE SPOKE TO ROBERT MACFARLANE, REAGAN'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER, LAST WEEK TO RECOMMEND THAT HIGHER-LEVEL OFFICIALS TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANUAL.